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January 16, 2004

The Honorable William D. Quarles United States District Court for the District of Maryland Garmatz Federal Building 101 W. Lombard Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Re: Newsome, et al. v. Up-To-Date Laundry, Inc.

Civil Action No. 01-2257 (WMQ)

Dear Judge Quarles:

I am counsel for the Defendants in the above-captioned case. This matter is currently pending before the Court for a decision on Plaintiff's Motion for a Class Certification and Defendants' Motion for Partial Summary Judgment.

Prior to Plaintiffs'filing of their suit in Federal Court, they and approximately twenty of the punitive class members filed administrative charges of discrimination with the Maryland Commission on Human Relations. In October 2003, the Maryland Commission on Human Relations filed Statements of Charges commencing the State Administrative Hearing process with respect to these charges.

At this time, issues regarding consolidation and scheduling in the State Complaints are under consideration. In connection with these issues, it would be very helpful for the parties and the Administrative Law Judge to have a sense of when the Court expects to issue its rulings regarding class certification and summary judgment in this case. I would appreciate any information you may be able to supply regarding the anticipated timing of these rulings.

Very truly yours,

Jeanne M. Phelan

JMP:gba

cc: Philip Simon, Esquire Lee Hoshall, Esquire The Honorable Georgia Brady